

**National GAINS Center for People with Co-Occurring Disorders in Contact
with the Justice System
TAPA Center for Jail Diversion
REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

General Information

The National GAINS Center for People with Co-Occurring Disorders in Contact with the Justice System provides technical assistance to states, localities, criminal justice and service provider organizations seeking to expand access to community-based services for adults with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders in contact with the justice system.

The National GAINS Center divides its technical assistance requests into two categories: Ad hoc technical assistance and Priority technical assistance. This distinction allows the National GAINS Center to give priority to jurisdictions that are CSAT or CMHS TCE I grantees or previous participants in the GAINS Center's Regional Forums. All other requests for technical assistance are reviewed as ad hoc technical assistance and considered for full or partial allocation of technical assistance funds.

The TAPA Center for Jail Diversion, a branch of the National GAINS Center, specifically provides technical assistance to states, localities, criminal justice and service provider organizations seeking to implement jail diversion programs in their state or community.

The TAPA Center is charged by SAMHSA to give priority to providing technical assistance to the 17 Targeted Capacity Expansion jail diversion programs funded by CMHS in 2002 and 2003. Technical assistance requests from other states, localities or service providers seeking to implement jail diversion programs or from existing jail diversion programs will also be provided.

Technical assistance may include:

- telephone and/or on-site consultation with GAINS/TAPA staff or consultants
- workshops/training events
- presentations at conferences
- cross-jurisdictional site visits
- guidance in pursuing funding opportunities

Where To Start

Governmental units, criminal justice, service provider organizations and other interested parties are encouraged to telephone the **National GAINS Center at 1-800-311-GAIN** or the **TAPA Center at 1-866-518-TAPA** to discuss their needs for assistance prior to submitting a formal request. If the request is within the scope of the technical assistance provided by the GAINS and/or TAPA Centers, our staff will request the submission of a technical assistance application.

Application Timelines

Applications for technical assistance are accepted and reviewed on a continuing basis. Every attempt will be made to notify applicants of results within 60 days of receipt of the application. Please be aware that we cannot generally review requests and, if granted, arrange for technical assistance to occur in less than 60 days.

Application Requirements

An application letter of no more than **five (5)** single-spaced pages should be submitted that includes the following information:

1. Name, title, address, phone, fax, and email address of contact person for request. Please identify if the entity requesting technical assistance is a CSAT or CMHS TCE I or II grantee or previous participants in the GAINS Center's Regional Forums.
2. Description of technical assistance needs, including the issues that the technical assistance will seek to address and the audience that will be targeted. Ex: Is TA requested by and for state and/or local jurisdictions, does it focus on the adult and/or juvenile population, gender-specific services?
3. For requests to the National GAINS Center: Description of how TA will contribute to improving services for people with co-occurring disorders involved in the justice system.
4. For requests to the TAPA Center for Jail Diversion: Description of how TA will contribute to the development and/or implementation of a jail diversion program.
5. Resources (financial or other) applicant has committed to this technical assistance request and to the program or other effort for which the technical assistance is requested.
6. Current stage of program or effort for which TA is requested.
7. Expected outcome of technical assistance including, if applicable, how technical assistance will enhance the program or services within the community.

8. Number of attendees expected, agency affiliation, level of training and role/staff level in agency.
9. What is the preferred timeframe for this request to take place and why?

Selection Criteria

Selection will be based on:

- Whether applicants are considered priority for the National GAINS or TAPA Centers
- The applicant's readiness to effectively utilize technical assistance
- Evidence of communication and collaboration with key stakeholders in the mental health, substance abuse and criminal justice systems
- Ability and willingness to share in the cost of the TA event
- Availability of technical assistance funds.

Application Submission

Submit application to:

The National GAINS Center/
TAPA Center for Jail Diversion
345 Delaware Ave.
Delmar, NY 12054
Fax: 518-439-7612
Email: gains@prainc.com or
tapa@prainc.com

Questions?

For further information, please contact:

National GAINS Center Project
Coordinator Lori Trzop Schatzel by
telephone: 800-311-GAIN or email:
ltrzop@prainc.com or

TAPA Center Project Associate
Melanie Shaw by telephone: 866-518-
TAPA or email: mshaw@prainc.com.